

Urban STS: Assembling New Perspectives

September 18-19, 2015

European University at Saint-Petersburg



DARCH ETH Wohnforum
ETH CASE



The contemporary city is dynamic, multiple, layered, contentious. It is a space for different publics, technologies, infrastructures, and politics. As the world continues to urbanize, with over half of the globe's population now living in cities, how do we study the urban in all of its complexity?

The field of STS offers a perspective that cuts across traditional thematic divisions, aiming to capture urbanity in its myriad forms. *Urban STS: assembling new perspectives* will present recent scholarship that bridges urban studies with the field of STS, focusing on the following four problematics: Mediations, Time and Temporality, (Techno)Politics, and Comparisons. Inspired by the growing interest in urban STS from a number of different disciplinary perspectives, the conference will consider the expanded field of STS and the numerous methodologies allotted by interdisciplinary bridges for reconsidering the urban assemblage.

Board of organizers:

- Diana West (European University at St. Petersburg)
- Olga Sezneva (European University at St. Petersburg and University of Amsterdam)
- Ignacio Farias (Munich Centre for Technology in Society, Technische Universität München)
- Monika Kurath (Centre for Research on Architecture, Society & the Built Environment, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich)
- Julio Paulos (Centre for Research on Architecture, Society & the Built Environment, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich)
- Marko Marskamp (Centre for Research on Architecture, Society & the Built Environment, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich)

Schedule

September 18

European University at St. Petersburg, White hall (3 Gagarinskaya St.)

9:30 Doors open

10:00 – 10:10 Opening Remarks

10:10 – 11:30 **Time and Temporalities I**

Michael Crang (Durham University)

Time out of joint in the technologized city: acceleration, persistence and recurrence

Olga Sezneva (European University at St. Petersburg and University of Amsterdam)
Koenigsberg Between Durée and Obduracy. On the Construction of Continuity in Urban Space

11:40 – 13:00 **Time and Temporalities II**

Alexander Wentland (WZB Berlin Social Science Center)

Dreamscapes of mobility: Modernist visions of electrified transportation and its contestants

Indrawan Prabaharyaka (Munich Centre for Technology in Society)
Permanent Temporariness of Infrastructures and Universalisation of Access (Case study: Jakarta urban water supply)

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch break

14:00 – 16:00 **Mediations**

Laurie Waller (Munich Centre for Technology in Society)

Curating science, technology and the city: Some cultural problems for an urban STS

Pim Peters (Munich Center for Technology in Society)

Nonhumans in the planning office: studying the assembling of high-quality cycling infrastructure in everyday practice

Julio Paulos (ETH Wohnforum – ETH CASE)
Reinventing the city, Reenacting Lisbon

Isabelle Doucet (University of Manchester)
Relational-Situated Perspectives in Architectural and Urban Studies

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break (Room 174)

16:30 – 17:50 **Mobilities**

Alan Latham (University College London)
In-active cities: thinking through the materialities of an everyday urban practice

Andrey Kuznetsov (Volgograd State University)
Towards a material semiotics of urban mobilities

September 19

Radisson Sonya Hotel, Epilogue hall (5 Liteyniy Ave)

9:30 Doors open

10:00 – 11:20 **‘Big Things’**

Jane M. Jacobs (Yale-NUS College)
Building Events: STS and Architecture

Anders Blok (University of Copenhagen)
Attachments to the common-place: pragmatic sociology and the aesthetic cosmopolitics of eco-house design in Kyoto, Japan

11:30 – 13:30 **Technopolitics**

Andrew Karvonen (University of Manchester)
The Smart City Agenda and the TechnoPolitics of Infrastructure Innovation

Anastasiya Golovniova (European University at St. Petersburg)
Urban waste disposal systems in St. Petersburg: The multiplicity of infrastructure, the multiplicity of garbage

Lyubov Chernysheva (European University at St. Petersburg)
“Sustainable City” Through “Cycling” in St. Petersburg: a struggle for concepts

Marko Marskamp (ETH Wohnforum – ETH CASE)
The Politics of Zoning: Plans, practices and publics in land use change

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch break

14:30 – 16:30 **Democracies**

Tomas Sanchez Criado (Munich Center for Technology in Society)
The sensible diplomacy of documentary interfaces: Engaged technicians and technified activists’ attempts at democratizing urban accessibility infrastructures

Alberto Corsín Jiménez (Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas)
Free culture and the city

Monika Kurath (ETH Wohnforum – ETH CASE)
Urban Design and Democracy: Comparing mediations and citizen engagement in urban planning

16:30 – 17:00 Coffee break (Atrium)

17:00 – 18:20 **Comparative Urbanism**

Ignacio Farias (Munich Center for Technology in Society)
Cosmopolitics of noise abatement. More-than-sonic problematizations of urban conviviality

Colin McFarlane (Durham University)
The new global urbanism: fragments, assemblages, and political formations

18:30 – 19:00 **Challenges to STS.**
Closing Discussion